

### Indiana Department of Revenue Contact Information

**To obtain copies of forms, bulletins or other administrative pronouncements:**

\*By Internet, visit our Web site: [www.IN.gov/dor](http://www.IN.gov/dor). (Click on either the "Tax Forms" or "Publications" link.)

\*By e-mail, write to [pfrequest@dor.state.IN.us](mailto:pfrequest@dor.state.IN.us).

\*By FAX, call our TaxFax at (317) 233-2329 (from the handset of a FAX machine).

\*By telephone, call our Forms Order Line at (317) 615-2581.

**For refund information:**

Call our Automated Taxpayer Information System (and press "1" in response to instructions given) from a touch tone telephone: (317) 233-4018 between 8:00 A.M. Monday - 10:00 P.M. Saturday.

**Other taxpayer services:**

To speak with a taxpayer assistant regarding individual income taxes, call our Taxpayer Services Division at (317) 232-2240 (8:15 A.M. - 11:15; 12:30 - 4:30 P.M.).

For corporate tax questions, call (317) 615-2662.

The Indianapolis Walk-In Assistance Center is open 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

To obtain Taxpayer Assistance Phone Numbers by specific tax types, go to: [www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/indy.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/indy.html).

For departmental Post Office box numbers, click here: [www.IN.gov/dor/filingdeadlines/pdf/po\\_boxes.pdf](http://www.IN.gov/dor/filingdeadlines/pdf/po_boxes.pdf).

To obtain a list of the department's District Offices, go to [www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/district.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/district.html).

**Motor Carrier Services**, (317) 615-7200, [www.IN.gov/dor/mcs](http://www.IN.gov/dor/mcs).

Indiana Department of Revenue, Motor Carrier Services Division, 5252 Decatur Boulevard, Suite R, Indianapolis, IN 46241

**24-HOURS-A-DAY, SEVEN-DAYS-A-WEEK INTERNATIONAL REGISTRATION PLAN TRANSACTIONS CAN NOT BE CONDUCTED ONLINE!**

Commercial Drivers License, (317) 615-7335; IRP, (317) 615-7340; Indiana State Police, (317) 615-7373; Oversize/Overweight Vehicle Permitting, (317) 615-7320; Motor Carrier Fuel Tax/IFTA, (317) 615-7345; Operating Authority, (317) 615-7290; Oversize/Overweight Insurance, (317) 615-7349; Superload Permits, (317) 615-7325.

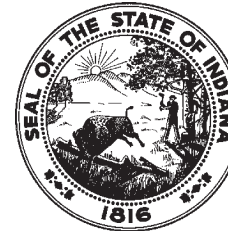
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# Indiana Tax Dispatch Newsletter

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for Tax Practitioners

Courtesy of the  
Indiana Department  
of Revenue

Visit the department  
on the Internet at:  
[www.IN.gov/dor](http://www.IN.gov/dor)

**Legislative highlights will  
be included in the next is-  
sue of the *Indiana Tax  
Dispatch*.**

### NOTICE

Starting this year, taxpayers who filed estimated coupons generated from software programs for their 2003 estimated payments will no longer be sent preprinted IT-40ES estimated coupon voucher booklets in the mail. The Department went from mailing approximately 335,000 packets in 2003 to just over 150,000 in 2004.

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## New Streamlined Sales Tax Law Brings Changes

Indiana enacted legislation effective January 1, 2004, to bring Indiana's sales and use tax statutes into conformity with the Streamlined Sales and Use Tax Agreement.

Standard definitions and terminologies were affected, applying to food and food ingredients, delivery, computer-related items and medical equipment.

Because of changes enacted during the 2004 General Assembly, Commissioner's Directives #21 and #22 and Sales Tax Information Bulletin #29 issued in January 2004 will be revised.

## Software Matters

Are you certain the tax software you are using has the most current Indiana tax updates, deductions and credits you can get for your clients?

Are you sure your software has even been certified by the Indiana Department of Revenue for use in Indiana?

Take the guesswork out of the software equation — give our software specialist, Michele Brackemyre, a call at (317) 232-2198 or e-mail her at [forms@dor.state.IN.us](mailto:forms@dor.state.IN.us). Have your brand and version number ready. Or, if you prefer, you can check out a list of the most up-to-date and approved software on our Web site at [www.IN.gov/dor/electronic\\_services/develop.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/electronic_services/develop.html).

## COMING THIS FALL...

...A BUSINESS ONLINE  
SERVICE  
OPTION

REGISTER/FILE/PAY SALES AND  
WITHHOLDING TAXES

WATCH NEXT QUARTER'S  
INDIANA TAX DISPATCH FOR  
FURTHER DETAILS



\*\*\* **NEW** \*\*\*

## Automated Refund Inquiry Service Now Available Online

In addition to our Automated Taxpayer Refund Information Service long available by telephone, taxpayers can now check the status of their refunds online by going to: <https://secure.IN.gov/apps/dor/tax/refund/>

The process is much the same as calling the automated telephone service (317) 233-4018 -- you must have your Social Security Number, exact amount of refund expected and the tax year.

Ten years of refund information is available with the online service.

## 2003 Homeowners Deduction Extended

Due to the restructuring of property taxes in Indiana, some counties still have not yet mailed their property tax statements. Homeowners may deduct on their 2003 state tax returns only those property taxes that have been paid to their counties during 2003 – up to the \$2,500 maximum allowed for 2003.

However, legislation passed by the Indiana General Assembly allows homeowners to deduct 2003 taxes paid in 2004 on their 2004 tax returns, along with their 2004 taxes paid in 2004 – **with a maximum of \$2,500 for each tax year**, for a total maximum deduction in 2004 of \$5,000. This \$5,000 maximum deduction (for property taxes paid in calendar year 2004) will apply only to the Indiana Individual Income Tax return filed in 2005.

### 2003 Individual Tax Forms Corrections

**Local taxes paid outside Indiana**  
An update has been made to the rate conversion chart used by individuals claiming the credit for local taxes paid outside Indiana. The chart, located on page 24 of the IT-40 booklet and on page 27 of the IT-40PNR booklet, should include the following: "Porter County: cannot take credit."

This means individuals who are

If homeowners or their mortgage companies did not receive and pay their property tax bills for 2003 in 2003, or if they received their tax bills but did not pay the taxes by December 31, 2003, then they can NOT deduct those taxes on their 2003 Indiana Individual Income Tax returns.

For possible specific scenarios, visit our news release, "2003 Indiana Property Tax Deduction Delayed Until 2004 for Some Homeowners" at [www.IN.gov/dor/publications/press/pdfs/property-tax.pdf](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/press/pdfs/property-tax.pdf).

For questions regarding the deduction, either call the Indiana Department of Revenue's Taxpayer Services Division at (317) 232-2240, or e-mail questions to [tartis@dor.state.IN.us](mailto:tartis@dor.state.IN.us).

subject to Porter County tax are not eligible for the credit for local taxes paid outside Indiana.

#### Deceased Taxpayers

The year reference on Page 8 of the IT-40 booklet in the last sentence of the last paragraph should read: "The date of death information will be shown on the individual's 2003 2004 tax return..."

### Spanish Forms Available Here

[www.IN.gov/dor/resources/spanish/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/resources/spanish/index.html)

- Indiana Individual Taxes (IT-40 form)
- Indiana Individual Taxes (IT-40 booklet)
- WCE-1 (Workman's compensation)
- Business Tax Application (BT-1)
- Other business forms

## Use Tax -- It's the Law!

Indiana is losing millions of dollars due to Internet and other out-of-state purchases on which Indiana Sales Tax is not levied.

Practitioners, please alert your clients to Line 17 of this year's IT-40 (Indiana Individual Income Tax Return) and ask them to be mindful of use taxable purchases made:

- over the Internet;
- through catalog and mail order sales (e.g. magazine and newspaper subscriptions; book, audio and video club purchases);
- from television, telephone and FAX marketers; and,
- while Hoosiers were on vacation out-of-state, where either no sales tax or less than six percent (6%) sales tax was levied on their purchases, which were brought back to Indiana.



### More Taxpayers Now Eligible for Indiana EIC

Beginning in 2003, Indiana has simplified the Earned Income Credit (EIC) calculation and reporting requirements.

Indiana's credit is equal to 6% (six percent) of the allowable federal Earned Income Credit.

Schedule IN-EIC must be attached to the state tax return, showing the dependent relationship information.

Also new for 2003, the EIC may be claimed on Form IT-40EZ. The worksheet information is on the back of the form, requiring no Schedule IN-EIC attachment.

### Form 1099G Reports Government Payments



The Internal Revenue Service requires government agencies to report certain payments made to taxpayers during the year, because these payments are considered taxable income for federal purposes.

The Indiana Department of Revenue must report in Box 3 of Form 1099G any refund, credit or offset of state and/or county income tax made during 2003 to individuals who claimed itemized deductions on their federal income tax returns for the year. This amount includes any interest paid on those refunds, credits or offsets.

All 1099G forms were mailed to Hoosier taxpayers during the week after Christmas.

For more information, visit the 1099G FAQ page on the Web at [www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/1099g.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/assistance/1099g.html).

## Bankruptcy Alert

Taxpayers who have claimed bankruptcy often have not filed tax returns for periods prior to their bankruptcy filing date. In these cases, the IDR Bankruptcy Section will issue BIA (best information available) billings for missing return periods in order to file a claim in the Federal Bankruptcy Courts. The BIA billings do not alleviate the requirement to file the missing returns. The missing returns must be filed in order to adjust the BIA liabilities to actual dollar amounts. For this reason, all tax returns for taxpayers with an open bankruptcy case should be mailed directly to the Bankruptcy Section for

### Recent Administrative Pronouncements

**Commissioner's Directives**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/comdir/](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/comdir/)

Commissioner's Directive #22  
Delivery and Installation Charges Subject to Indiana Sales and Use Tax  
January 2004

**Departmental Notices**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/notices/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/notices/index.html)

Departmental Notice #12  
State and Federal Excise Taxes Levied on Motor Fuel  
January 2004

**Audit-Grams**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/legal/audit\\_gram/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/legal/audit_gram/index.html)

AuditGram IR-010  
Receipts Attributable to Indiana - Financial Institutions Tax  
January 2004  
(Replaces prior issue dated March 1, 1999)

**Sales Tax Information Bulletins**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/bulletin/sales/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/bulletin/sales/index.html)

Sales Tax Information Bulletin #29  
Sales of Food  
January 2004 (replaces IB #29 dated December 2002)

**Income Tax Information Bulletins**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/bulletin/income/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/bulletin/income/index.html)

**Tax Policy Directives**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/publications/poldir/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/publications/poldir/index.html)

### Reminders

**Consolidated Sales Tax Payers**  
Form RP-11, Indiana Annual Consolidated Sales Tax Information Return, was mailed out in January by the Department to all consolidated sales tax filers.

It is due back to us by **May 31, 2004**.

**IN-ePay**  
[www.IN.gov/dor/epay/index.html](http://www.IN.gov/dor/epay/index.html)

- To pay the balance due on your Individual Income Tax return
- To make an extension-of-time-to-file payment (IT-9)
- To make installment payments of your estimated (EST) tax.
- To pay a bill received from the Department

#### Forms

If you need a certain tax form quickly, remember you can go either to our Web site or to your Package IN-X on CD-ROM for forms, bulletins, notices, directives, audit-grams, letters of finding/rulings, Indiana Code, Indiana court decisions, and much, much more!

#### Renter's Deduction

Ceiling for Renter's Deduction is now \$2,500, up from \$2,000 last year.

#### 2004 STATE HOLIDAYS

Offices of the Indiana Department of Revenue will be closed on the following dates:



Good Friday ..... April 9  
Primary Election Day ..... May 4  
Memorial Day ..... May 31  
Independence Day ..... July 5